

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

Non-elected claims 5-13 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional application(s) directed to the non-elected claims.

Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicant respectfully submits that the meaning of these claims is discernible to one of ordinary skill in the art and that the claims are therefore definite. Nonetheless, to advance prosecution, Applicant has amended claims 2 and 3 to refer to "a Bluetooth-based protocol" and "an 802.11-based protocol", respectively. Based on these amendments, withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as allegedly being "clearly anticipated" by Tam (U.S. Patent No. 5,526,403). While not acquiescing in this rejection, claim 1 has been amended and conforming amendments have been made to claim 4. The discussion below makes reference to the amended claims.

Claim 1 is directed to a communication system comprising a landline communication device comprising circuitry adapted to place and receive calls over a landline communication network, and interface circuitry connected between the landline communication network and the landline communication device. The interface circuitry comprises a wireless transceiver for communicating over a local wireless communication link with a wireless communication device for a wireless communication network, wherein the interface circuitry selectively connects the landline communication device to the landline communication network so that calls may be placed and received by the landline communication device over the landline communication network for landline calls and to the wireless transceiver so that calls may be placed and received by the landline communication device over via the wireless communication network via the wireless communication device and the local wireless communication link

By way of example without limitation, Figure 10 of the subject patent application shows interface circuitry that includes a wireless transceiver 1002 for communication over a wireless communication link with a wireless communication device 108' for a wireless communication network. The interface circuitry selectively connects a communication device 102 to the

wireless communication device 108' via the wireless communication link for wireless calls. Thus, a user of the communication device 102 can, for example, place wireless calls via wireless communication device 108'. The wireless link between transceiver 1002 and the wireless communication device in the example embodiment avoids the need to physically place the wireless device in a cradle having direct physical connection to the interface circuitry. As long as the wireless device is located within the communication range of the wireless protocol, the interface circuitry can access the wireless device to, among other things, place calls. See paragraph [0085].

Tam fails to disclose the claimed interface circuitry. Among other things, Tam relates to an interface that permits cellular telephones to operate over a land-based telephone line as well as over the cellular radio network. See Tam, col. 1, lines 11-12. In contrast, claim 1 is directed to a communication system in which a landline communication device may be used to place calls over a landline and a wireless communication system. For this reason, Tam cannot anticipate claim 1 or its dependent claim 4.

Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as allegedly being "obvious" over Tam. First, even assuming for the sake of argument that the use of Bluetooth or 802.11 protocols would have been obvious in Tam, Tam would nonetheless be deficient with respect to claim 1 (from which claims 2 and 3 depend) for the reasons set forth above. Second, while Bluetooth and 802.11 are existing standards, this does not establish that the use of these standards in the particular context of the pending claims would have been obvious. Consequently, claims 2 and 3 are believed to patentably distinguish over Tam.

New claims 14-32 have been added. The subject matter of these claims is believed to be fully supported by the original disclosure and no new matter is added.

Claims 14-23 depend from claim 1 and are believed to patentably distinguish over Tam because of these dependencies and the additional patentable features recited therein.

Claim 24 is directed to interface circuitry for allowing a landline communication device to place and receive calls over both a wireless communication network and a landline communication network. As noted above, Tam is directed to an interface that permits a cellular telephone to operate over a land-based telephone line as well as the cellular radio network. Consequently, claim 24 and its dependent claims are believed to patentably distinguish over Tam.

ALEXIS, Glenroy J.
Serial No. 10/615,408
Response to Office Action dated January 11, 2006

The pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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